



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
FINAL DETERMINATION OF
NON-SIGNIFICANCE**

August 27, 2004

State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: SOUTH FORK COLOCKUM HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Description of Proposal: This is an experimental thinning project designed for habitat improvement of Rocky Mountain elk and mule deer winter range. There are 600 forested acres to be thinned in 2 sections. The goal is to reduce the density of Douglas and Grand Fir by removing trees which have invaded as a result of past logging practices and wild fire suppression, open up the Ponderosa Pine stands using different spacing requirements and burn the resulting slash to improve regeneration of fire dependent species for deer and elk browse. Chipwood and/or timber will be harvested using ground-based systems, which may include feller processors, feller bunchers, and self-loading forwarders. There will be no new road construction, but the project may necessitate reopening some non-green dot roads for the forwarder (approx. 4 miles) and use of temporary landings.

Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 Contact: Paul Dahmer 360/902-2480

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 201 N. Pearl Street, Ellensburg, Washington 98926 Contact: Douglas Kuehn, Wildlife Forester 509/ 899-3361

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The project proposal is located in Chelan and Kittitas counties approximately 22 miles south of Wenatchee, via Colockum County road, Ingersoll road and Moses Carr/Kingsbury road. The proposal lies within portions of Sections 5 of Township 20 North, Range 21 East, and Section 25 of Township 21 North, Range 20 East, Willamette Meridian.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **Aug 26, 2004**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or
e-mail: habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: August 12, 2004

SIGNATURE:



SEPA Log Number: 04-66. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Upper Columbia River Basin Field Office, Spokane
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle
NOAA - Fisheries, Seattle
Chelan County Planning Department, Wenatchee
Yakima Nation, Toppenish
Colville Confederated Tribes, Nespelem
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 2, Ephrata
WDFW, Fish Program, Region 2, Ephrata
WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 2, Ephrata
Kittitas County Planning Department, Ellensburg
Yakima Nation, Toppenish
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, Portland, OR
Department of Transportation, So. Central Region, Yakima
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 3, Yakima
WDFW, Fish Program, Region 3, Yakima
WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 3, Yakima